

 LA MAMA



LA MAMA EXPLORATIONS PRESENTS

ENDLING

An Ending for Becoming

3 July - 5 July 2026

ENDLING traces the fraught and intimate bond between a woman and her late grandfather, drawing from lived experience to examine intergenerational trauma, coercive control, and the messy inheritances carried through a family line. Though it confronts heavy material, the work is delivered through a heightened poetic form that allows for lightness, humour, and moments of childlike play. The text moves with pace and clarity, holding the weight of its subject matter while refusing to be defined by it.

A single performer navigates a world shaped by a live chorus of male bodies. Their breath, vocalisation, and percussive movement generate the sonic environment she must move through – part memory, part resistance. They operate as soundscape and antagonist, a living embodiment of legacy, dominance, and the echoes that persist long after the source has gone.

The performance unfolds within an abstract, shifting design that slips across time and space, evoking the unstable terrain of memory. Part exorcism, part reckoning, ENDLING gives theatrical form to intangible forces: emotional inheritance, buried stories, and the patterns we learn before we have language for them.

As the performer summons and contends with her grandfather's presence – through recollection, myth, and embodied invocation – the work asks: What can be transformed? What must simply be witnessed? And what might be released when we dare to speak into the silence?

WRITER'S NOTE

Coloured by everything in my world, ENDLING poured out of me like flash flood and grew like a snowball, layering itself in all that surrounded me. The playfulness of the language then led the way to a deep almost subconscious place where childhood memories and dreams played freely.

I am so excited to build a unique interplay between the text and the choir. I see it like a new language that will bridge generational and experiential divides and speak to the human child that lives on within us all.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

ENDLING is an example of how language can ferry us beyond our quotidian experience. The rhythms lure us in, tease and surprise us. The character is strong and fragile, the perpetrator is harsh, damaged and out of his depth. The narrative is unconventional, but the family story is familiar; the form: unexpected. This is a work of craft and substance. It captured me from the outset and felt vital to champion.

Beck and I began work on ENDLING in 2022 after a collaboration that has spanned many years. She has an extraordinary skill set, and I believe the platform of ENDLING, supported by such an outstanding production team, will enable her to create an indelible experience in the theatre.

Credits & Thank Yous

Writer/Performer: Rebecca Bower

Director/Dramaturg: Kirsten von Bibra

Performers: Gary Slade, Richmond Heath, Hugo Riquelme

Set/Lighting/Costume Designer: Max Bowyer

Producer: James Edwards

Mentor Sound Designer/Composer: Kelly Ryall

Mentor Set and Costume Designer: Anna Cordingley

Mentor Lighting Designer: Thomas Roach

Hero Image: Darren Gil courtesy of La Mama

Special Thanks to:

Tim Wotherspoon

John Shearman

Luke Laux & The Gentlemen's Choir

Simon Edwards

Antonia Koratzopoulos - Meat Market



Office Phone: (03) 9347 6948
Office Hours: Mon–Sun 11am–6pm

Box Office is open 1 hour before show time.

205 Faraday Street, Carlton VIC 3053 www.lamama.com.au | info@lamama.com.au

La Mama Theatre is on the traditional lands of the peoples of the Kulin nation, and we give our respect to the Elders and to all First Nations people past, present and future. We acknowledge all events take place on stolen lands and that sovereignty was never ceded.